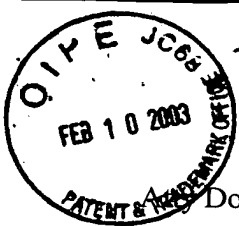


FOR: SURFACE INSPECTION APPARATUS AND SURFACE INSPECTION METHOD

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Docket No. 2421-0331-2X PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
Ryuzou TOMOMATSU : GROUP ART UNIT: 2877
SERIAL NO: 09/147,520 : EXAMINER: R. ROSENBERGER
RCE FILED: HEREWITH :
FOR: SURFACE INSPECTION :
APPARATUS AND SURFACE :
INSPECTION METHOD :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

DEAR SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 5, 7, 8, 11, and 12, without prejudice or disclaimer, and rewrite as new claims 17-42 as shown in clean form below. A Marked-Up Copy of the amended claims is attached.

17. (New) A surface inspection method characterized in using a surface inspection apparatus, the surface inspection apparatus comprising:

a light source structurally configured to apply a light to a surface of an object to be measured;

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02 FC:1801
03 FC:1202

750.00 OP
108.00 OP

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